

South Dakota Family Focus

Family Assistance 800-658-3930 https://sdguard.ngb.army.mil



An update for South Dakota National Guard Service Members and Families

South Dakota Family Readiness Volunteer Workshop and Youth Symposium March 24-25, 2012—196th Regional Training Institute—Sioux Falls, SD

Greetings, Partners in Crime!

We would like to invite you to attend the 2012 South Dakota Family Readiness Volunteer Workshop to be held at the 196th Regional Training Institute (RTI) in Sioux Falls on March 24 & 25. The RTI is located at 803 W. National Guard Drive and is attached to the west side of the Sioux Falls Armory near the Sioux Falls Airport.

This year our theme is "Partners in Crime". Every day we see the power of great partnerships like a commander & first sergeant, Fred & Ginger, the Beatles, Batman & Robin, the Three Musketeers, the Three Stooges, Bonnie and Clyde. The list goes on and on. For this conference we would like to emphasize the importance of the partnership between the volunteers and the unit command. We have lined up a

great slate of break-outs and keynote speakers for the adults. The Youth Program will have an aggressive schedule packed with enjoyable and motivational opportunities as well. Our hope is to not only enhance your unit's Family Readiness Program, but to equip everyone (kids included!) with additional personal and life skills as well. For more information go to our Family Programs Website under the "Events" section or contact:

General POC Lynn Wright (605) 737-6089 Child and Youth POC Taryn Broomfield (605) 737-6919

Happy St. Patrick's Day from the Youth Program Wishing you and your family lots of luck!

Professional Development Training

Attend free professional development training through the **Military Child Education Coalition** (MCEC) on 13-14 March in Mitchell. This is for families, professionals, educators, counselors, and those working with National Guard and Reserve youth. An excellent opportunity to network with counterparts in the state and learn more about supporting our military children! The training also offers the option of earning graduate credit or continuing education credits (CEU's) for a fee.



Youth Resource

Youth Resource - **Military Kids Connect** (MKC) is a DoD tool to assist military youth in connecting to each other and deployment resources.

This is an online community of military children (ages 6-17) that provides access to age-appropriate resources to support children from pre-deployment through a parent or caregiver's return. Check it out at www.MilitaryKidsConnect.org.



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Save the Dates

24-25 March - SDNG State Youth Symposium in Sioux Falls Held in conjunction with the South Dakota Family Readiness Volunteer Workshop. Join us for a fun-filled weekend as "Partners in Crime" – friends are welcome! Childcare available for ages 0-5 and all-day activities for ages 6 to 17

9-13 July – 2012 SD Military Youth Camp at Storm Mountain Open to ages 10-13 – Join other military youth for an exciting week of camp!

Yellow Ribbon Coordinator



Greetings I am SFC Penny Dickes, before, during and after their the recently appointed Yellow Rib- return from deployment. I can bon Coordinator in Soldier and be contacted at (605) 737-Family Support Services. I have 6947 and my email is been a member of the SDARNG for penny.r.dickes@us.army.mil more than 24 years. Before accepting the position of Yellow Ribbon

Coordinator, I was the Admin NCO with the 730th Area Support Medical Company, Vermillion SD. I have deployed twice to Iraq and had the opportunity to go on several humanitarian missions as a medic with the 730th. I have three grown children: Heath, John (Jenny) and Holly (Cody) and two beautiful grandchildren Jaden (2) and Ezra (17 months.) I feel very honored to be part of this great organization and look forward to serving the Service Members and their families before, during and after their return from deployment. I can



Yellow Ribbon Event Schedule 2012

March

31st 935th AVN- Pre-mobilization Event-Camp Rapid

Apri

14th Reunion and Early REFRAD's Reintegration Event—Sioux Falls 21st Reunion and Early REFRAD's Reintegration Event—Camp Rapid

May

19th Early REFRAD's Awareness/Wellbeing Event—TBD

June

9-10th 730th ASMC and 927th Survey & Design Team Premobilization Event—Vermillion 23-24th 200th Reintegration Event—Pierre 30th— July 1st 189th AVN Reintegration Event—Rapid City

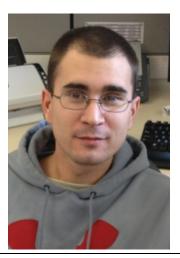
July

14-15th 139th BSB Reintegration event—Watertown 21-22nd 200th Awareness/Wellbeing Event—Pierre 28-29th 189th AVN Awareness/Wellbeing Event—Rapid City

Yellow Ribbon Support Assistant

My name is PFC Kenrick Buckley and I am 27 years old. I have been married to my wife Heather for four years. We have a daughter that is 2 and she keeps us very busy. My wife works at the Rapid City Regional Hospital as a Registered Nurse. I joined the Army National Guard in June of 2010 as a Human Resources Specialist with the 109th RSG and now have the opportunity to work with the Yellow Ribbon Program. Outside of work I enjoy spending time with my family and hunting. I am excited to begin working with the Yellow Ribbon Program and look forward to meeting new people. I can be contacted at (605) 737-6017 and by email at

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Yellow Ribbon Program Basics

Who and What?

Pre-Mob Family (30 days Prior to mob) - <u>Service Member and family</u>. Topics include: Family Programs overview, Family Assistance, Emergency Notification, Child and Youth Resources, Pay Entitlements, TRICARE, etc.

Sustainment/Reunion (During Deployment) - <u>Families of deployed Service Members</u>. Topics include: separation issues, children and the deployment, stress management, etc.

Reintegration (30 days Post Mob) - <u>Service Member and family</u>. Topics include: Reintegration, ESGR, VA Benefits & Entitlements, Education, TRICARE, etc.

Awareness/Wellbeing (60 days Post Mob) - <u>Service Member and family</u>. Topics include: Challenges of reunion, back to civilian life, substance abuse, risky behavior, etc.

Post Deployment Health Assessment (PDHRA) (90 day Post Mob) - <u>Service Member only</u>. Topics include: Physical/mental health review, VA resources, resilience training, etc.

Hope For The Warriors Scholarship

Hope for The Warriors Scholarships were created in response to the sacrifices of U.S military service members in the Global War on Terror and the desire to provide their spouses or caregivers with the opportunity to pursue post-secondary higher education to assist them in maintaining the financial well-being of their families. As such, Hope For The warriors Scholarships are open only to legal spouses or caregivers of U.S. military services members who were wounded/injured or killed while in the line of duty between September 11, 2001 and the present. For more information on this scholarship please contact SDNG Transition Assistance Advisor William Meirose (605) 737-6669 or by email at William.meirose@us.army.mil.